VS GUI User Guide Addendum

Release 1.7.35.0 Update
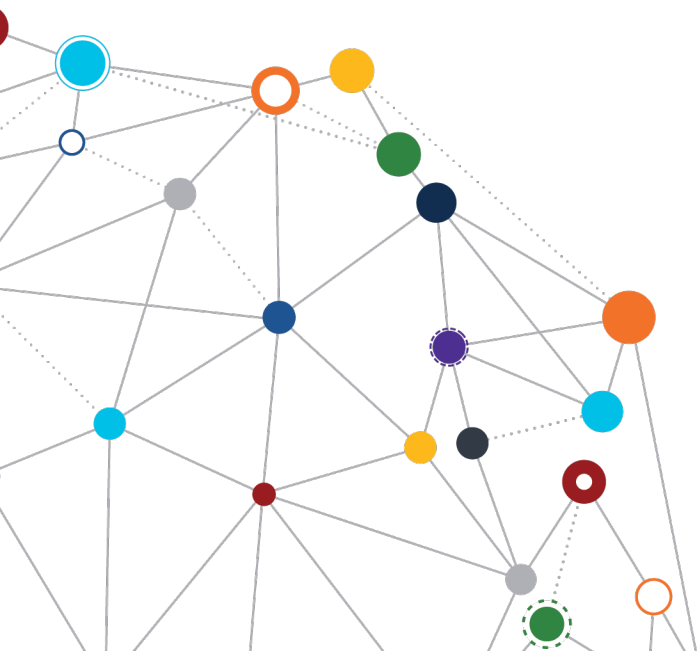
Revision History

Date	Revision	Description	Author
12/23/2022	1.0	Created Release Documentation	VSE PMO

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1 Introduction

Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Veterans Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture (VistA) Scheduling Graphical User Interface (VS GUI) module is the Windows GUI version of the Patient Information Management System (PIMS) Scheduling module. It provides appointment management functions included in PIMS Scheduling, but with the added convenience and usability of a GUI.

1.1 Purpose

The Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Office of Integrated Veteran Care (IVC) requested an enterprise enhancement for the VS package that supports COVID-19 response. The enhancement reduces operating costs for VHA and improves operational efficiencies, resulting in patient-centered access to care, coordinated care, increased customer satisfaction, and the reduction of excessive cycle/wait time for scheduling patients.

1.2 Overview

VS GUI is a software module that allows schedulers to make appointments quickly by viewing multiple appointment request types and multiple clinics in one screen. A scheduler can easily view patient requests for service, find the next available open appointment, view the provider's availability in multiple clinics, and track a patient's appointment process. Refer to **System Summary** for a more detailed description of VS GUI functionality.

1.3 Disclaimers

1.3.1 Software Disclaimers

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1.4   Project References

1.4.1   Information

The VS GUI points of contact (POCs) include:

- » IVC Program Office – ==Redacted==
- » TeleHealth & Scheduling Technical Director – ==Redacted==
- » IVC Emerging Technologies Acting Legacy Program Manager – ==Redacted==

VistA Scheduling (VSE) Resources

- » Veterans Health Administration (VHA) VSE SharePoint: ==Redacted==
- » VA Software Document Library (VDL) – Scheduling (VSE manuals near the bottom): ==Redacted==
- » National Return to Clinic (RTC) Order: ==Redacted==

2   System Summary

The VSE project delivers a series of enhancements to legacy VistA Scheduling Version 5.3 via the VistA Scheduling (VS) Graphical User Interface (GUI) application.

This update is for the nationally released version 1.7.35.0, which includes VS GUI 1.7.35.0 and VistA patch SD*5.3*831. At time of publishing, install period is projected for January 2023.

VS GUI Release 1.7.35 contains user facing updates and fixes as well as several back-end updates. User facing enhancements include displaying the child facility on Veteran appointment requests and modifying the patient comments section for Veteran appointment requests to ensure the information provided is better displayed to the user. This release fixes an issue where VS GUI did not unlock a request after a user would click away, switch patients or reload the gird. Additionally, the phone number formatting in the patient info dialog box has been updated to ensure the phone number entered is correctly formatted and carried through to VistA in that format. In addition to these changes, VS GUI 1.7.35.0 also includes a fix for an issue that was causing the patient record flag to open to the bottom of the dialog box, which would force users to scroll up to see the patient record flag information. Finally, the duration field in the new appointment dialog box for fixed timeslot clinics has been disabled, as it should not be editable. The back-end updates include Remote Procedure Call (RPC) modifications as well as several new RPCs created to support future functionality.

3   Key Feature Update in Version 1.7.35.0

3.1   Displays Child Facility for Veteran Appointment Requests

As of this release, Veteran appointment requests will have a new field displayed when a Child Facility is included in the request so users will know where the request should be scheduled.
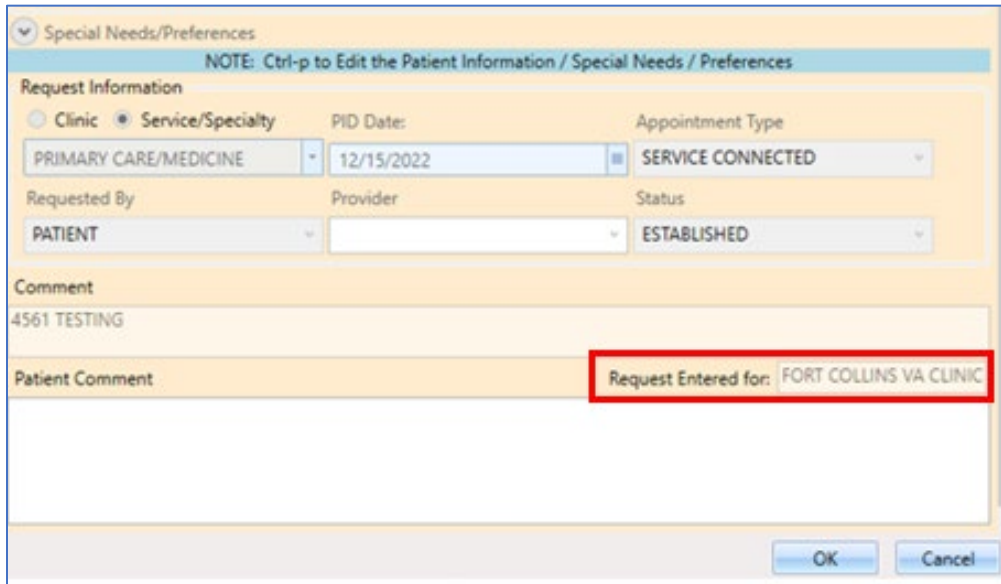

Figure 1: Image of new field displaying Child Facility for Veteran appointment requests.

3.2   Disables the Duration Field for Fixed Timeslot Clinics

The Duration field in the New Appointment dialog box for fixed timeslot clinics has been disabled since these clinics should not allow the duration to be modified.
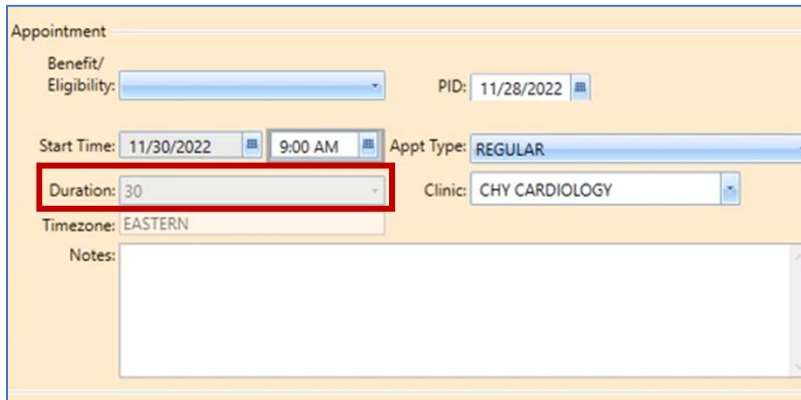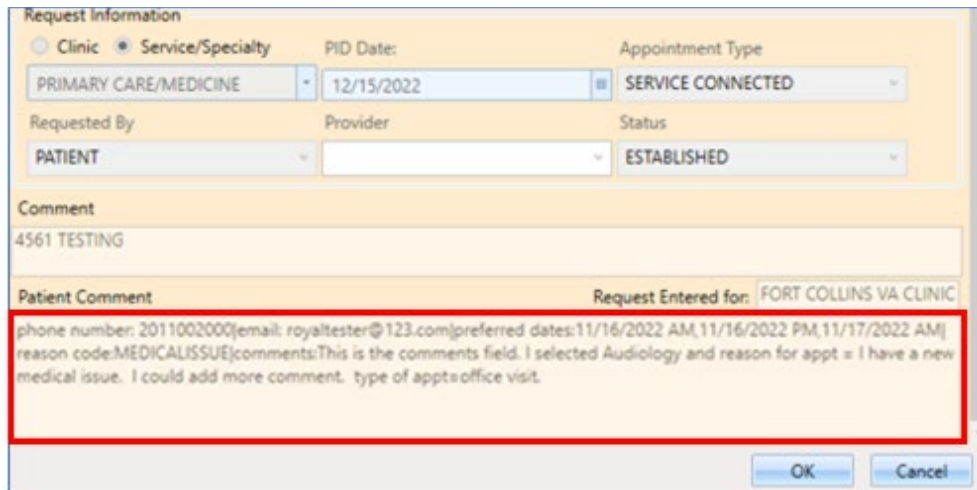
Figure 2: Image showing disabled Duration field for fixed timeslot clinics.

3.3   Modifies Patient Comments to Include Line Breaks
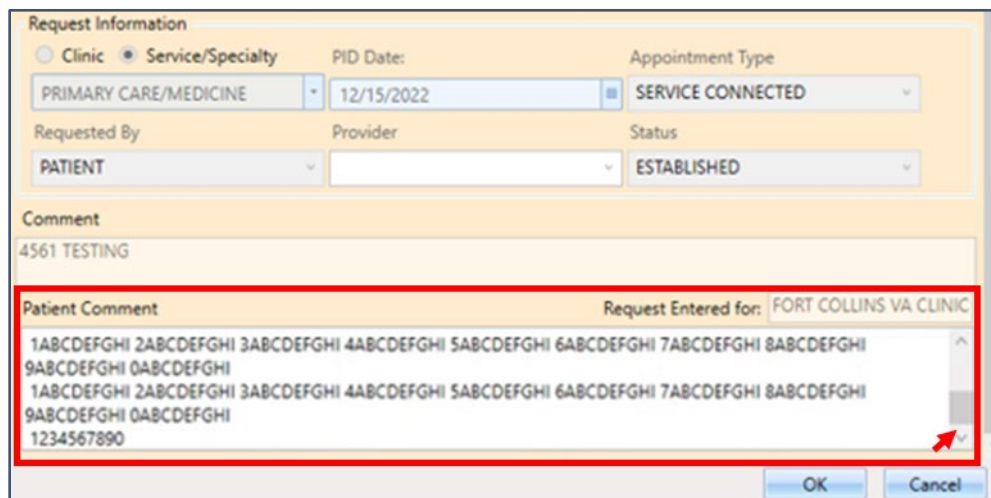
As of this release, the display of patient comments for Veteran appointment requests has been modified. Previously, the comments were displaying as one block of text, as shown below:

Figure 3: Image displaying previously formatted block of text in the Patient Comment box.

Now, the patient comments will include line breaks to display the information in a clearer format. A scroll bar has also been introduced to ensure all patient comments can be read by the user, as shown below:

Figure 4: Image of Patient Comment box with line breaks in text and added scroll bar.

3.4   Fixes Phone Number Formatting in Patient Info

As of this release, VSE GUI displays and sends the correctly formatted number to VistA.

Phone Number entered as:

Figure 5: Image of Phone Number entered.

Phone Number Formatted:

Figure 6: Image of Phone Number formatted.

Phone Number in trace log for VistA:

Figure 7: Image of Phone Number in trace log for VistA.